GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7009
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2000
TOURIST VISITED AJANTA ELLORA
RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists visited Ajanta, Ellora and Khajuraho during the last three years; and

(b) the amount allocated to provide more facilities, and for development of areas around these places during the above period?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE

(SHRI ANANTHKUMAR)

(a): On the basis of information received from the Archaeological Survey of India, total number of tourists who visited Ajanta & Ellora during the last three years are as follows:-

Year	Total No. of Tourists	
	Ajanta	Ellora
1997	2,99,869	5,27,788
1998	2,72,007	5,04,984
1999	2,58,283	5,06,745

Separate figures for foreign tourist visiting Ajanta & Ellora are not available.

According to the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh,estimated number of foreign tourists who visited Khajuraho during the last three years are as follows:-

Year	Number of Foreign Tourists
1997	61793
1998	60681
1999	61997

(b): During the last three years an amount of Rs. 155.11 lakhs and Rs. 152.69 lakhs has been sanctioned to the State of Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh for development of areas around Ajanta & Ellora and Khajuraho respectively.

The Government of India entered into a loan agreement with the Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF) of Japan for conservation and development of Ajanta & Ellora in Maharashtra. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 81.07 crores. The major components of the project are: afforestation, up-gradation of Airport facilities at Aurangabad, strengthening and improvement of roads, augmentation of water supply and sewerage, improvement of electricity supply, conservation of monuments and visitors' management facilities. The project has been extended till March 2002.